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THE "ON TO CUBA" COLLAPSE.

During the past week the Cuban Junta, at New York, advised by other interested parties, and a few newspaper men, whose patriotism outweighed their prudence, have labored faithfully to involve the country in a war with Spain, or Cuba. And, perhaps, it will never be known how nearly they succeeded.

"Kunashan" telegrams were sent all over the country, telling how a Spanish mob had endeavored to assassinate Gen. Sibley, our Spanish Minister, and how Gen. Sibley had said that he did not know how war could be avoided. Added to this was the stereotyped statement that Gen. Grant had expressed his opinion very decidedly, and that the Government was making active preparations for war, the latter statement being, perhaps, the only one having a particle of truth in it. All this had the desired effect, and the odds all over the country were yellow for war, and those who happened to control a newspaper headlined "Blood and Thunder" articles with "On to Cuba," and it really seemed as if the foot-soldiers were at hand. This bombast was telegraphed to Spain, and appeared in the Spanish newspapers, and the feels in that country imitated the example of those in this. The Cuban Junta rubbed their hands gleefully, the big editors, who had declared for war at the outset,豪情满怀ly said, "I told you," and the sullen and Cuban adherents of every description, once moved to set their houses in order to drive a thriving trade at the expense of the blood and the treasure of the nation. But, thanks to the wise and prudent counsel that prevailed, both at Washington and Madrid, it was not to be so, or, at least, not until all preparations were exhausted to set the scales by measures more lucrative than the vibration which we heard.

But, as we have said, the bombastic Junta, Gen. Sibley has taken the trouble to deny that there are any complications indicative of immediate trouble existing between the Spanish Government and himself. The war-like declarations put into the mouth of the President by the Cuban Junta and their paid henchmen, as proved to be base fabrications, and, above all, the good common sense of the country has entered a solemn protest against the sacrifice of the business interests of the country to an hour of foolish frenzy. It seems now that if we are to have a war by reason of the Vargas capture, it will be because, upon a full investigation, we shall find ourselves aggrieved, and the Spanish Government refuses or fails to make amends. Then, arbitration falls, as a last resort, we may be compelled to seek redress by force. This, as we understand it, has been the position of the Government from the beginning, and it certainly is the only tenable ground for prudent, patriotic citizens to occupy.

PUBLIC VIRTUE.

There are some newspapers and some persons (who draw their conclusions from the所述的newspapers) that are continually harping about the dishonesty of public officials. To such an extent has this been carried in certain quarters, that it would really seem that the unpopularity of the holding of a public office is to be counted a matter of disgrace. An impartial and even-minded view of the facts in the case will not warrant the one-sided part of the virulence that is heap'd upon public officials by a party of the press. And this indifference indicates that it is only natural to those who occupy public positions, but it is indeed injurious to the government. Right. What citizen of good repute cares to assume the responsibilities of a public trust with the certainty before him that he will be made the butt of unjust censure and ridicule, and his most trivial faults and mistakes magnified into crimes and felonies? As a result, only those who have a cause sufficiently elastic and a virtue sufficiently easy to break off those insults will aspire to public position, and the standard of public virtue will have been proportionately lowered.

The proportion of honest men who hold offices is much greater than of those who do not hold offices, and it would be safe to call it a general rule—withstanding the almost universal belief, engendered by and attack as we have alluded to—that our public servants are honest. The dishonesty of public officials should be mercilessly exposed by the press, but care should be taken to bring the whole class of office-holders—and even the offices themselves—into disrepute, by wholesale sale and false charges of a general nature. The large proportion of our public servants are well meaning, and in proportion as we give them due credit for their merits, so far as we expect and demand the services of men of good repute and unbiased integrity in the public service. Our other idea, we can assure the public that if they begin with the unbound assumption that every official is a scoundrel, that, consequently, in due time, and the our State governments are but systems for legalized plunder, they will have taken one step toward bringing about the very state of things that they deplore; in that they will discourage good men from seeking places and encourage worthless and dishonest incompetents.

The Neff House property, at Yellow Springs, was again put to sale by the receiver last week. It has been appraised at \$88,000 and was offered at \$25,000 with no takers. The property is assessed for taxes at \$10,500, and there are also 300 acres of excellent land on which a forty acre or chain of bearing trees, besides other improvements.

There are now one hundred and sixty-two Granges organized in Ohio, with an aggregate membership of ten thousand.

THE GOVERNMENT IN CUBA.

A writer in the *Cleveland Leader* who has spent many months on the Island of Cuba, gives the following history of the mode of governing adopted by the Spanish:

The organization of that land consists of one article, fulminated two-thirds of a century ago, and remains to this day, unaltered, suspended over the entire Island. In substance, "the power of the Captain General shall be that of the commandant of a besieged town in the time of war." It can live to half an century, and longer, if the might of an army does not call it to account for any thing which he might do. As things are this power is, in my opinion, it was ever lost by non-use.

The Cubans are the descendants of original Americans, English and French, and the owners of the bulk of the property of the island, and were long under a despotic power, more suffocating and crushing than any American has ever known. He may go to work like a man, and makes sugar. For the rest, his music can be only indicated by negroes.

Travels in Lily differ very materially from all other parts of Europe.

I differ in the same proportion as the people, the climate and history of the country affect. The Lily, compared with the water-skirted canal, first past the house where Desdemona is said to have lived, then along by Byron's palace, while the moonlight enters the gray looking houses to the west of the city. They have a strong band and singers, composed mostly of their own.

There are no bastions.

The bastions are excellent. All the music sounds as though it was suppressed just enough to make it soft and sweet. Upon the water it sounds still better. Then as groups of gondolas that perfectly noiselessly along the water-skirted canal, first pass the house where Desdemona is said to have lived, then along by Byron's palace, while the moonlight enters the gray looking houses to the west of the city. They have a strong band and singers, composed mostly of their own.

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